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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-682-8000

March 12, 1985

TO: SUBSCRIBERS TO THE "MONTHLY COMPLETION REPORT"

Enclosed is the first issue of the newly revised monthly report on drilling activity. The changes to the format and content of the monthly and quarterly drilling reports were announced in a December 28, 1984 letter to subscribers.

Previous monthly drilling reports provided well and footage information based on the month in which the information was received by the API. These data also were shown by states and by subdivisions of states.

Beginning with this January 1985 report, well and footage data will be reported on the basis of the month and year in which the wells were completed, regardless of when the wells were finally reported to the API. These data will be shown for the total United States only. Statistics for the various states and areas will be reported in the quarterly reports.

Comparable statistics for this new series are available in the API publication "Well Completions and Footage Drilled in the United States, 1970 - 1982," which may be purchased from the API's Publication and Distribution Section, at $6.00 per copy.

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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
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Monthly Completion Report

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

Report Month: JANUARY 1985

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cumulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months

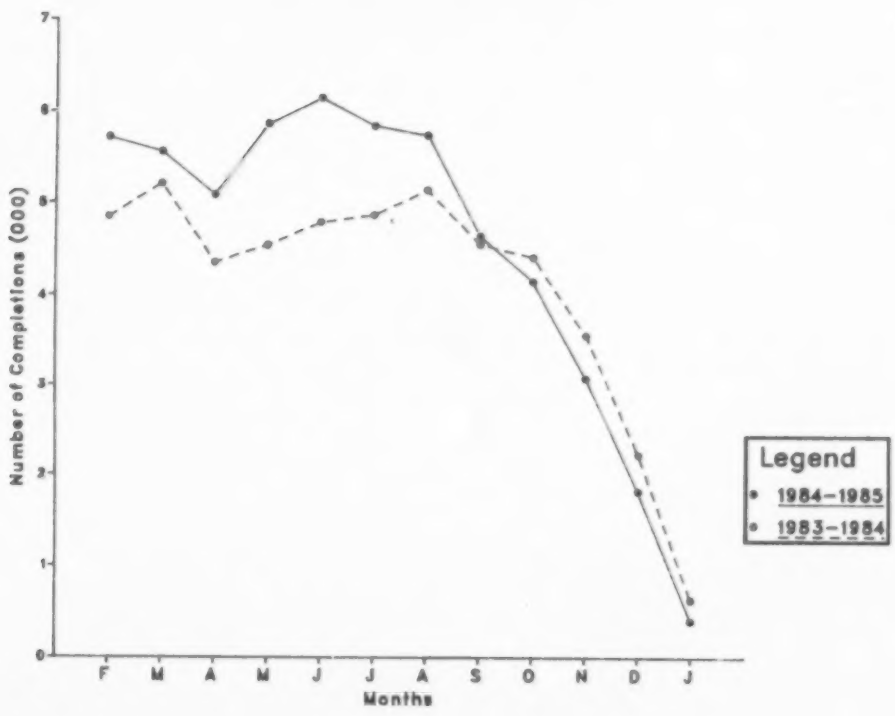

TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF JANUARY 25, 1985[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS[4]	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	167	895,826	37	279,519	193	1,403,378	397	2,578,723	405	2,607,475
1985: JAN	167	895,826	37	279,519	193	1,403,378	397	2,578,723	405	2,607,475
TOTAL 1984	31,073	126,119,309	10,266	58,796,249	18,869	92,344,099	60,208	277,259,657	61,537	281,219,425
1984: DEC	1,004	4,450,182	196	1,315,829	615	3,522,527	1,815	9,288,538	1,869	9,466,117
NOV	1,738	7,122,501	417	2,511,767	916	4,699,947	3,071	14,334,215	3,148	14,583,229
OCT	2,204	9,506,530	623	3,677,787	1,324	6,330,458	4,151	19,514,775	4,280	19,931,779
SEP	2,422	9,856,387	728	4,096,480	1,497	7,116,241	4,647	21,069,108	4,729	21,324,184
AUG	2,805	10,996,490	925	5,311,797	2,014	9,381,531	5,744	25,689,818	5,865	26,088,060
JUL	3,013	11,814,151	909	5,467,986	1,922	8,948,273	5,844	26,230,410	5,950	26,561,312
JUN	3,039	11,740,936	1,109	6,017,867	1,997	9,223,680	6,145	26,982,483	6,252	27,301,794
MAY	3,042	12,343,810	1,089	6,152,232	1,736	8,589,037	5,867	27,085,079	5,993	27,423,275
APR	2,736	10,791,860	848	5,103,822	1,508	7,738,310	5,092	23,633,992	5,236	24,002,418
MAR	2,966	12,353,418	1,005	6,086,090	1,591	8,269,806	5,562	26,709,314	5,684	27,072,984
FEB	2,929	12,002,549	1,154	6,213,518	1,636	8,292,922	5,719	26,508,989	5,838	26,883,226
JAN	3,175	13,140,495	1,263	6,841,074	2,113	10,231,367	6,551	30,212,936	6,693	30,581,047
TOTAL 1983	34,935	131,048,140	13,597	73,296,277	22,278	99,812,136	70,810	304,156,553	72,648	308,566,680
1983: DEC	2,808	10,872,008	1,251	6,412,180	1,801	8,870,590	5,860	26,154,778	5,997	26,498,784
NOV	3,093	11,966,968	1,198	5,908,115	2,026	9,459,972	6,317	27,335,055	6,474	27,720,239
OCT	3,164	12,132,023	1,336	6,676,401	2,052	9,246,401	6,552	28,054,825	6,703	28,428,236
SEP	3,084	11,472,837	1,208	6,321,449	1,914	8,261,624	6,206	26,055,910	6,351	26,367,574
AUG	3,274	11,563,969	1,276	6,456,785	2,001	8,315,233	6,551	26,335,987	6,745	26,862,675
JUL	2,966	10,645,194	1,048	5,562,088	1,890	7,967,542	5,904	24,174,824	6,076	24,557,451
JUN	2,775	10,222,663	1,000	5,735,221	1,813	7,216,022	5,588	23,173,906	5,738	23,498,263
MAY	2,572	10,261,118	913	5,370,948	1,679	7,437,650	5,164	23,069,716	5,339	23,519,988
APR	2,500	9,702,149	853	5,152,786	1,521	7,037,777	4,874	21,892,712	4,992	22,168,433
MAR	2,824	10,910,414	1,050	6,015,868	1,801	8,404,841	5,675	25,331,123	5,835	25,659,863
FEB	2,505	9,595,593	1,068	6,000,003	1,695	7,759,959	5,268	23,355,555	5,386	23,657,868
JAN	3,370	11,703,204	1,396	7,684,433	2,085	9,834,525	6,851	29,222,162	7,012	29,627,306
TOTAL 1982	37,987	145,783,645	18,309	103,467,960	25,196	120,162,647	81,492	369,414,252	83,675	374,619,195
TOTAL 1981	42,614	168,930,178	19,791	105,970,534	27,030	132,231,537	89,435	407,132,249	91,805	412,932,720

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF JANUARY 25, 1985[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	10	65,477	3	27,175	90	624,494	103	717,146
1985: JAN	10	65,477	3	27,175	90	624,494	103	717,146
TOTAL 1984	1,760	9,767,934	968	6,281,323	8,581	46,086,438	11,309	62,135,695
1984: DEC	42	253,447	9	53,829	288	1,850,424	339	2,157,700
NOV	81	448,107	23	157,555	401	2,305,129	505	2,910,791
OCT	98	502,205	50	327,991	635	3,148,903	783	3,979,099
SEP	155	909,428	59	378,077	679	3,498,247	893	4,785,752
AUG	143	785,608	67	489,143	876	4,666,198	1,086	5,940,949
JUL	148	771,956	100	703,502	909	4,565,580	1,157	6,041,038
JUN	162	893,205	95	578,277	958	4,768,676	1,215	6,240,158
MAY	192	1,086,590	111	709,570	761	4,250,872	1,064	6,047,032
APR	138	841,225	82	554,094	691	3,818,805	911	5,214,124
MAR	204	1,142,726	126	855,680	689	3,962,569	1,019	5,960,975
FEB	197	1,054,040	129	762,798	756	4,233,301	1,072	6,050,139
JAN	210	1,079,397	117	710,807	938	5,017,734	1,265	6,807,938
TOTAL 1983	2,040	10,308,090	1,563	9,917,065	9,662	47,392,280	13,265	67,617,435
1983: DEC	145	730,180	109	697,424	781	4,126,479	1,035	5,554,083
NOV	161	804,617	104	651,807	896	4,397,716	1,161	5,854,140
OCT	196	1,036,753	131	796,804	885	4,352,834	1,212	6,186,391
SEP	167	843,355	124	759,344	863	3,979,036	1,154	5,581,735
AUG	178	779,076	130	773,943	845	3,763,269	1,153	5,316,288
JUL	174	812,236	125	713,077	814	3,631,921	1,113	5,157,234
JUN	160	793,376	119	821,219	812	3,489,803	1,091	5,104,398
MAY	154	902,570	145	965,026	757	3,741,739	1,056	5,609,335
APR	172	856,144	125	835,045	626	3,293,645	923	4,984,834
MAR	172	915,879	147	878,954	757	4,054,339	1,076	5,849,172
FEB	171	926,938	145	972,962	697	3,697,970	1,013	5,597,870
JAN	190	906,966	159	1,051,460	929	4,863,529	1,278	6,821,955
TOTAL 1982	2,453	13,366,349	2,123	14,538,519	11,088	59,841,968	15,664	87,746,836
TOTAL 1981	2,662	15,422,683	2,526	17,014,415	12,252	68,685,079	17,440	101,122,177

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING JANUARY 1985

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	167	895,826	37	279,519	193	1,403,378	397	2,578,723	405	2,607,475
1985: JAN	167	895,826	37	279,519	193	1,403,378	397	2,578,723	405	2,607,475
TOTAL 1984	2,125	8,458,999	930	4,951,665	11,159	5,396,407	4,214	18,807,071	4,325	19,202,710
1984: DEC	726	3,418,967	164	1,103,215	375	2,124,064	1,265	6,646,246	1,299	6,771,324
NOV	522	2,260,972	187	1,148,366	320	1,528,939	1,029	4,938,277	1,046	5,019,403
OCT	253	1,110,735	133	745,882	167	699,652	553	2,556,269	567	2,623,072
SEP	176	620,545	100	472,277	68	271,654	344	1,364,476	351	1,380,090
AUG	98	234,887	91	483,137	62	213,516	251	931,540	267	1,005,513
JUL	79	216,362	65	319,495	48	147,831	192	683,688	194	692,858
JUN	75	216,204	67	261,433	43	131,555	185	609,192	192	622,891
MAY	52	163,173	36	137,252	20	94,808	108	395,233	109	396,573
APR	56	61,490	15	31,983	20	67,812	91	161,285	92	161,986
MAR	29	72,273	32	111,928	5	7,424	66	191,625	68	194,437
FEB	27	28,639	24	78,011	11	39,673	62	146,323	62	146,323
JAN	32	54,752	16	58,686	20	69,479	68	182,917	78	188,240
TOTAL 1983	112	266,302	71	239,701	89	161,711	272	667,714	289	685,335
1983: DEC	17	38,255	16	63,197	13	25,703	46	127,155	49	129,143
NOV	15	54,426	15	47,498	15	21,857	45	123,781	49	128,963
OCT	15	45,826	11	29,707	15	47,195	41	122,728	41	122,728
SEP	7	22,255	10	33,566	9	8,647	26	64,468	26	64,468
AUG	22	34,626	9	28,719	19	31,765	50	95,110	55	97,108
JUL	11	20,275	1	11,018	3	7,077	15	38,370	16	42,150
JUN	8	21,863	3	7,142	2	2,831	13	31,836	16	33,072
MAY	4	10,179	1	1,785	2	3,194	7	15,158	7	15,158
APR	3	5,164	1	3,500	4	4,923	8	13,587	8	13,587
MAR	2	1,334	2	7,904	4	5,360	8	14,598	8	14,598
FEB	6	7,529	1	785	2	1,559	9	9,873	10	13,310
JAN	2	4,570	1	4,880	1	1,600	4	11,050	4	11,050
TOTAL 1982	18	49,980	14	52,865	19	44,902	51	147,747	51	147,747
YRS PRIOR TO 1982	17	43,226	4	8,245	17	46,350	38	97,821	38	97,821
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5]	2,439	9,714,333	1,056	5,531,995	1,477	7,052,748	4,972	22,299,076	5,108	22,741,088

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of January 25, 1985. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period December 29, 1984 through January 25, 1985. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.